Dr. A. G. Menon.—Before we go to the next question, I wish to point out that generally when questions have already been answered, they used to state 'vide questions and answers, number such and such on such and such a day'.

Stoppage of kuries—moratorium.

180. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) the total number of signatories who have prayed for the stoppage of kuries and for moratorium, general and qualified ;

(b) what the Government have done in the matter;

(c) what they intend to do in the matter ;

(d) what other proposals do the Government entertain to minimise the miseries alluded to ;

(e) whether the Government think that a socialistic order of society will be an alternative solution of the public distress?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—(a) About 3,000.

(b) and (c) Government are appointing a committee to consider the question of stopping kuries. As regards moratorium, they do not propose to take any action now.

(d) No further action is considered necessary at present.

(e) No.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(a) The date when they received the first prayer?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(b) and (c). The date on which the committee to be appointed was published in the Gazette?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It was published in the last gazette.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The grounds the Government entertain against qnalified moratorium mentioned in a recent motion of mine in this House ?

President.—It is not a supplementary question to this. I do not think that arises from this question.

Grade of Sub-Magistrates.

181. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

1. what the present grade of Sub-Magistrate is ;

2. is it a fact that three of the Sub-Magistrates who are moreover in the towns of Trichur, Ernakulam and Cochin are besides their legitimate second class work burdened with the trial of first class cases ;

3. is any special allowance granted to these officers for their extra and more responsible work ;

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4. is it a fact that before the recent reorganisation the three Sub-Magistrates of these towns were placed in the grade of Rs. 150 while the other Sub-Magistrates in the mofussil stations were in the grade of Rs. 125;

5. is it a fact that even so early as 1st Chingam 1089 the Sub-Magistrates of Ernakulam, Trichur and Cochin were (besides a pay of Rs. 125) being given a local allowance of Rs. 15 per month;

6. is it a fact that the grade of Rs. 150 drawn by the senior Magistrate before the re-organisation was one fixed so early as 1st Vrischigam 1095;

7. is it a fact that the Special Finance Committee recommended;

(a) that all Sub-Magistrates should be placed in the uniform grade of Rs. 150—10—200, and

(b) that only one of these should be invested with first class powers and he to be placed in the grade of Rs. 200—250;

8. is it a fact that the special session of the Legislative Council passed these proposals;

9. why was the Government not pleased to accept the recommendations;

10. why was the grade of the senior Magistrate pulled down from Rs. 150 to Rs. 125—5—150;

11. does the Government consider that this is breeding discontent in the services;

12. will the Government consider the desirability of enhancing the grade of at least the 3 Magistrates of the towns of Trichur, Ernakulam and Cochin to the grade proposed by the Special Finance Committee?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—1. Rs. 125—150.

2. The Magistrates referred to have first class powers.

3. No.

4. Pay was not local. The senior men were given the higher grades.

5. Yes.

6. Yes.

7. (a) and (b). Yes.

8. Yes; with the modification that there should be a separate First Class Magistrate's Court at Ernakulam.

9. The Member is referred to paras 43 and 44 of the orders on the Special Finance Committee's Report.

10. Do

11. No.

12. Government do not consider any revision is possible at present.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know how many first class cases are tried by these Magistrates with second class powers every year ?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—I want notice.

Trucks—Forest Department.

182. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state .—

(1) the number of pairs of trucks asked for by the Forest Department per month in 1105 and 1106 for transport of Government timber ;

(2) the number of pairs of trucks delivered in the respective years ; the reason for the difference in the 2 years ;

(3) are trucks generally delivered for private transport before satisfying the requirements of the Forest Department; if so, the reason for so doing ;

(4) has the Forest Department preferential claims for trucks for transport of Government timber than a private contractor ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) A statement is appended. (*Appendix IX.*)

(2) 1103 pairs of trucks were delivered in 1105 and 1333 pairs were delivered in 1106.

The following reasons contributed to the short delivery of empties in 1105. (1) The Muduvarachal bridge was closed for repairs for about 10 days when there was no traffic,(2) no empties were delivered on the closing and reopening days after Onam, Christmas and Easter holidays, (3) hauling up of bogies and coal trucks for sleeper transport in consequence of which there was shortage in the number of empties available for delivery.

The reasons for the shortage in 1106 are (1) closure of bridges for repairs on account of which there was no Government transport for some days, (2) repairs to engine in section III when the traffic had to be conducted with only one engine, (3) working of special trains for the Diwan and the Hon'ble the Resident of the Hyderabad State on which days no empties were delivered and (4) no empties were delivered on the closing and reopening days for and afterOnam, Christmas and Easter holidays. Added to the above reasons the detention of trucks for repairs owing to their old age also contributed to a large extent to the shortage in delivery.

(3) No. Trucks are delivered for private transport only after assurance from the Department that they have no objection for the transport and after obtaining Diwan's orders.

(4) Yes.

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